

transforming and standardizing the values of the soluble mediator levels of the subject and the values weighted (multiplied) by their respective Spearman coefficients (Spearman  $r$ ); and

summing for each participant visit, the log transformed, standardized and weighted values for each of the four or more soluble mediators to calculate the LDAII.

**25.** The method of claim **19**, wherein an increase in the LDAII is indicative of at least one of: SLE disease progression, increased autoimmune disease activity, or organ damage.

\* \* \* \* \*